

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**DECEMBER 12, 2018**  
**REGULAR SESSION**

Members Present: David Andrade, Nelson Almeida, David Viera, Chris Zorra

Absent: Michelle Hines

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Chairman Andrade opened the meeting at 7 p.m. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Bob DeFontes and Bob DelRosso who passed away during the last two weeks. Both were active members of the community who served on many boards. Mr. DelRosso was on the Board of Selectmen many years ago. Their information, knowledge, and sacrifices for the betterment of the town will be missed.

He announced that, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20(f), anyone recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording via audio and visual.

The meeting was held at the Seekonk Senior Center, 540 Arcade Avenue.

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE**

Mr. Almeida announced that volunteers are needed on the Charter Study Committee (up to 6 Board of Selectmen appointments), Conservation Commission (3 BOS), Cultural Council (2 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (3 BOS), Property Tax Work-Off Committee (3 BOS), Recycling Committee (up to 4 BOS), Taxation Aid Fund Committee (1 BOS), 540 Arcade Avenue Phase II Building Committee (3 Moderator, 2 BOS), Aitken School Building Committee (7-9 Moderator).

**COMMUNITY SPEAKS**

Town Moderator Peter Hoogerzeil advised the following eight individuals were appointed to the Aitken School Building Committee: Elizabeth Eklund, Benjamin Ferreira, David Graf, William Moreau, Jacqueline Proulx, David Saad, Kimberly Sluter, and Jason Walters. He would like a member from the Board of Selectmen. The organizational meeting will be on Thursday at the high school. Mr. Zorra accepted the recommendation of his colleagues to serve as the 9<sup>th</sup> member.

**PRIORITY MATTERS**

**Consider the Appointment of Kenny Borges to the Position of Driver/Laborer for the Department of Public Works**

DPW Superintendent David Cabral introduced Mr. Borges.

Mr. Cadime advised there were no findings in the background check completed by the Police Department.

Mr. Cabral recommended the appointment. Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by the Supt. of DPW.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was

**VOTED:** 3 Ayes; 1 Nay; To appoint Kenny Borges as driver/laborer for the Department of Public Works, effective Monday, December 17, 2018.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Zorra - Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Nay.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Almeida felt he could not support the appointment because the candidate didn't have longevity in his former jobs.

Chairman Andrade agreed. However, he felt it was because of Mr. Borges' age and trying to find himself.

Mr. Borges said he was looking for better jobs. He felt this position would enable him to settle down.

Mr. Viera noted the advantages of working in the community he lives in. He said that Mr. Borges will be working with a great bunch of guys at DPW.

Mr. Zorra said it is nice to hire a Seekonk resident.

Mr. Cabral said that Mr. Borges is excited about the physical part of the job.

**Consider Offering a Conditional Offer of Employment to Barbara Medeiros to the Position of Clerk in the Assessor's Office**

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To extend a conditional offer of employment to Barbara Medeiros as Clerk in the Assessor's Office.

**Consider Offering a Conditional Offer of Employment to James Halpin for the Position of Driver/Laborer for the Department of Public Works**

Mr. Cabral recommended the appointment. Mr. Halpin is a Seekonk resident and a retired detective with the Pawtucket Police Department.

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Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by the Supt. of DPW.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To extend a conditional offer of employment to James Halpin as driver/laborer for DPW.

**Consider Accepting the Donation of Four Wreaths from the Rehoboth Garden Club to be Displayed at the Town Hall and Senior Center**

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To accept the donation of four wreaths from the Rehoboth Garden Club.

**Consider Accepting the Donation of \$30 from Karen & Alfred Travers to the Human Services Gift and Donation Account**

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To accept the \$30 donation from Karen & Alfred Travers to the Human Services Gift and Donation Account.

**Consider Accepting the Donation of \$300 from Stanley & Karen Stutz to the Human Services Fuel Account**

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To accept the \$300 donation from Stanley & Karen Stutz to the Human Services Fuel Account.

Mr. Viera expressed heartfelt appreciation to the above for their donations.

**LICENSE HEARINGS**

**Consider the Request for a Change of Manager for Ledgemont Golf Club, Inc., 131 Brown Avenue, Seekonk Joseph Ruggeiro, Manager**

A motion was made by Mr. Viera seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the change of manager for Ledgemont Golf Club, Inc. to Joseph Ruggeiro.

Mr. Ruggeiro was in attendance.

**2018 LICENSE RENEWAL HEARING – See attached list of renewal applications, business names and addresses**

**Amusement Machines**

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zora, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve license renewal for Amusement Machines.

**Entertainment/Amusement Facility**

A motion was made by Mr. Zorra, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve license renewal for Entertainment/Amusement facilities.

**Alcohol**

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve license renewals for All Alcohol, All Inn Holder, Veteran's Club, Wine and Malt, and Wine and Malt Package Store.

Mr. Viera wanted to make sure West Wind was previously approved.

Mr. Cadime said it was done on the previous agenda.

**Class II, III Motor Vehicles**

Mr. Cadime advised the Zoning official had issues with Car Palace. There were too many vehicles on the lot. The parking plan allows for 12 and there were 18 vehicles. Additional cars were being sold on adjacent lot. An update from the Building Inspector is that the vehicles were there until the septic system was repaired. The vendor is now in compliance.

Mr. Viera felt the lot where the cars were stored is town property.

A representative from Car Palace said he did have permission to use that lot. He will not use that space anymore.

Mr. Viera said he should have written permission.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the Class II motor vehicle license for The Car Palace, 14 Taunton Avenue.

Mr. Cadime advised there were multiple complaints with RIMASS, 87 Taunton Avenue. Non-compliance with approved parking plan, too many vehicles on the lot, and obstruction of a public way (parking on sidewalk). The Building Inspector has indicated it is now in compliance.

He said this is a new license and the Building Inspector had to go out there several times.

Chairman Andrade expressed concern about the sidewalk parking.

Mr. Tantimonaco said it was a customer who parked on the sidewalk. The complaint was a month ago. He is doing his best to stay within the restrictions.

Mr. Viera said he cannot store cars on his property across the street.

Mr. Tantimonaco said the plan calls for 18 spaces and 4 for employees.

Mr. Almeida noted this is the first year in business for this vendor as well as The Car Palace. The Building Inspector should check periodically.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the Class II motor vehicle license for RIMASS for a total of 25 cars, regardless of for sale or employees, as per the parking plan.

Mr. Cadime advised the violation for TriStar Auto is that the rear of the property is being used as a scrapyard. The property owner leased the rear portion to another business who does not have a license to conduct a scrap metal business.

Mr. Robert J. Coelho, Jr. was in attendance. He stated that his father had passed away. He is trying to evict the scrap metal business.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the Class III license for TriStar Auto, with the stipulation that the owner provide the Board with an update at a meeting in April 2019.

Board members extended condolences to Mr. Coelho.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Consider Authorizing the Town Administrator to Sign Contracts for the Public Safety Radio Project not to exceed \$1,899,740**

Communications Director Chris Campbell requested authorization from the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contracts for the Public Safety Radio Project; not to exceed \$1,899,740, as follows:  
Motorola Solutions \$1,197,021  
Cyber Communications \$154,831  
Green Mountain Cable \$547,888.

**Consider Awarding the Animal Shelter Bid to Coletta Contracting Co., Inc.**

Mr. Cadime advised Coletta Contracting Co., Inc. was the lowest bidder.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To award the bid for the animal shelter to Coletta Contracting Co., Inc. in the amount of \$1,398,200.

Mr. Almeida said, "It's about time."

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To authorize the signing of the contract with Coletta Contracting Co., Inc.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Viera asked if there would be verbiage in the contract with regard to a penalty clause if not completed in a certain amount of time.

Mr. Cadime referred to the contract which stated completion of the project within 245 consecutive calendar days and liquidated damages in the sum of \$1,000 for each consecutive calendar day thereafter in accordance with Article 8, Section 4 of the Supplementary Conditions.

He explained that liquidated damages are not a guarantee that the Town would get that money. It has to be associated with the delay.

Once approved, there will be discussions with the contractor about a project schedule.

Mr. Almeida thanked the Animal Shelter Building Committee for not giving up, the residents for their continued support and Coletta Contracting for submitting an affordable bid. He is looking forward to the completion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consider Dissolving the Veterans Memorial Park Committee and Establishing a Five-Member Veterans Council**

Mr. Cadime advised that this committee has reached its pinnacle as to what it was used for. A Veterans Council would advise the Veterans Agent on related issues that veterans may have and maintain all memorials throughout town and focus on flag replacement and also the patriotic parades and various ceremonies. The Veterans Council would be comprised of five town residents appointed by the Board of Selectmen and serve on staggered terms. This would be allowed through Mass. General Law Chapter 115, Section 12.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

**VOTED:** To dissolve the Veterans Memorial Park Committee and establish a five-member Veterans Council.

Mr. Viera said the Veterans Memorial Park Committee throughout the years did a yeomen's job and accomplished its task to build a Veterans Memorial Park. Members are getting old and unable to attend night meeting. A member died this past week. The Veterans Council would report to the Veterans Agent and Town Administrator.

**COMMUNITY SPEAKS** – None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Discuss Other Topics not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 48 Hours before the Meeting** – None.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

**Veterans Memorial Park Committee Liaison Report**

Mr. Viera stated that the Veterans Council is a step in the right direction. It will honor the veterans of Seekonk for many years.

He urged young people to get involved.

He mentioned that Mr. DelRosso served on every committees in Town. He was an encyclopedia of knowledge and expertise about the Town of Seekonk. He will be solely missed. He said "Rest in Peace, Mr. DelRosso."

Mr. Viera mentioned Mr. Robert DeFontes who also passed away recently. As the Vice-Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Park Committee, Mr. DeFontes made sure the work was done. He said "Rest in Peace, Mr. DeFontes, it was a pleasure working with you. Till we meet again."

Mr. Zorra said the Chairman of the School Committee announced that talent bank forms cannot be filled out on line.

Chairman Andrade said the forms can be scanned and e-mailed to the Town Administrator's office.

Mr. Zorra inquired about using the one-call system to notify residents about Town Meeting.

Chairman Andrade noted that the Fire Chief had discouraged the use of the one-call system for non-emergency reasons.

Mr. Cadime said the Board had decided not to use that except for emergency situations.

Mr. Zorra asked about adding lights at Cole Street fields to extend the playing.

Mr. Almeida concurred with comments made by Mr. Viera that both Mr. DelRosso and Mr. DeFontes gave back to the town.

He noted the ban for marijuana failed. He asked about getting information on the next step. There is talk that the Town can get tax revenue from marijuana shops. It is a cash business so people have to keep in mind the town can only receive what is documented. It depends on how truthful they document their numbers. He inquired about getting information on the 3% the town would get.

Chairman Andrade said the vote at town meeting was 58% to 42%. Mr. Cadime is working on regulations with legal.

Mr. Almeida suggested to those individuals who follow Board meetings and post on social media that the ban was shutdown at town meeting and the election.

Mr. Almeida thanked the Kiwanis Club and others involved in the Christmas tree lighting. He said the Kiwanis does a great job; but, the equipment is not satisfactory. The town needs to provide better equipment, and possibly a local company could donate a tree.

Mr. Viera recalled at the last meeting a resident tried to speak over the chairman. He asked Mr. Cadime to come up with rules to follow in order to speak.

Chairman Andrade said there has to be a protocol to follow.

Mr. Cadime said he would draft something for the Board's review.

Mr. Almeida said he forgot to thank Save-A-Pet members. They continue to have fundraising throughout the year. They will be allocating some money toward the project.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:23 p.m., Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Zorra, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Parks and Recreation Director, and also with the Superintendent of Public Works per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) and to conduct negotiations with the Seekonk Public Library Employee Association, MLSA, AFT Massachusetts, AFL-CIO per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town and to consider the approval of the corrected Executive Session minutes of September 19, 2018, to consider the approval of Executive Session minutes of October 10, 2018, and to consider the approval of Executive Session minutes of October 24, 2018; not to return to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

Items Distributed at the December 12, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Town Moderator Peter R. Hoogerzeil – List of appointments to the Aitken School Expansion Building Committee

Kenny Borges – Application and resume for position of truck driver/laborer

Barbara Medeiros – Application and resume for position of clerk in Assessor's Office

James Halpin – Application and resume for position of truck driver/laborer

Karen & Alfred Travers - \$30 check to Human Services Gift Account

Stanley & Karen Stutz - \$300 check to Human Services Fuel Account

Documentation for change of manager at Ledgemont Country Club

License Renewals – Amusement Machines, Entertainment/Amusement Facility, Alcohol and Class II and III Motor Vehicle Licenses

Documentation for Public Safety Radio Project

Contract with Coletta Construction for the Animal Shelter Building Project

